



# The Pacesetter

*14th National Veterans Golden Age Games*

A Daily Production of the National Veterans Golden Age Games • Tuesday, September 5, 2000

## Hey, Soldier - Where's Your Dog Tags?

*by Kim Byers, VHA Special Events Coordinator*

"It reminds me of World War II, when all of us had dog tags. It brings back the memories, and it's a nice souvenir." That's what WWII veteran Ira Walton of Waco, Texas, had to say about his special 2000 Golden Age Games dog tags.

"The last time I wore these was 56 years ago," said another WWII vet, Oliver Seymour, from South Deerfield, Mass. When handed his tags at Games registration, teammate John Prusak of South Hampton says the first thing he asked was "when's the combat start?"

Those were just a few of the comments made by 14th National Veterans Golden Age Games participants about their brand new dog tags, given out as first-time souvenir items at the Games this week.

The brainchild of one special Vietnam veteran – Jim Lyddane, of Netawaka, Kansas, Lyddane thought the tags would be especially meaningful to the participants here. Featuring the name and location of the 2000 Golden



Age Games, the tags also include individual identification for each veteran, listing name, athlete number and home state. "We wanted to come up with something that the guys would really remember, and what more can a veteran remember than the old dog tags," Lyddane said.

Funds to purchase the tags came from the Colmery-O'Neil VA Medical Center in Topeka, where Lyddane volunteers on

a regular basis, "as often as I can." But the blood, sweat, and tears spent in producing the dog tags were strictly Lyddane's, creating more than 1000 of the tags for the participants this week.

Using his own, "very old" dog tag machine, Lyddane drove to New Mexico to retrieve it from storage for his special project, then spent hours, days, and weeks in his (non air-conditioned) garage hand-printing each tag, even in the recent suffocating Kansas heat. It was a letter-by-letter process, but clearly a labor of love for Lyddane, who became involved in the Golden Age Games for the first time this year. "This is really good," he said about the event. "It's all about that brotherhood that Uncle Sam gave us. We are all vets, we've all served our country. And the dog tags say 'I was at the Golden Age Games—just like the old dog tags said, I served my country.'"

Veterans—wear them with pride!

## On The Menu . . . *for Tuesday, September 5*

# BREAKFAST

- Scrambled Eggs
- Breakfast Potatoes
- Bacon
- Biscuits & Sausage Gravy
- Cold Cereal
- Assorted Danish
- Fresh Fruit
- Beverages

6:30 am to 8:30 in both hotels

# HUNT

Garden Green with Dressing  
Pasta Salad  
Deli Buffet  
*Turkey, Roast Beef, Ham,  
Assorted Cheeses*  
Mexican Bar  
*Enchiladas, Nachos, etc.*  
Breads and Rolls  
Desserts/Ice Cream  
Beverages

11 am to 1:30pm

# DINNER

Mixed Greens with Dressing  
Cucumber Salad  
Garlic Baked Chicken  
Meatloaf  
Red Skin Whip Potatoes  
Penne Alfredo  
Green Bean Casserole  
Corn on the Cob  
Rolls and Butter  
Desserts/Ice cream  
Beverages

4:30 pm - 6:30 pm

# Today's Schedule

8 AM	9 AM	10 AM	11 AM	Noon	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM
<b>Horseshoes and WC Horseshoes</b> (Ages 65-69) <i>Expocentre, Landon Arena</i>		<b>Horseshoes and WC Horseshoes</b> (Ages 60-64, 80+) <i>Expocentre, Landon Arena</i>			<b>Horseshoes and WC Horseshoes</b> (Ages 55-59, 70-74) <i>Expocentre, Landon Arena</i>		<b>Horseshoes and WC Horseshoes</b> (Ages 75-79) <i>Expocentre, Landon Arena</i>		
<b>Shuffleboard and WC Shuffleboard</b> (Ages 65-69) <i>Expocentre, Exhibition Hall</i>		<b>Shuffleboard and WC Shuffleboard</b> (Ages 60-64, 80+) <i>Expocentre, Exhibition Hall</i>			<b>Shuffleboard and WC Shuffleboard</b> (Ages 55-59, 70-74) <i>Expocentre, Exhibition Hall</i>		<b>Shuffleboard and WC Shuffleboard</b> (Ages 75-79) <i>Expocentre, Exhibition Hall</i>		
<b>Checkers</b> (Ages 65-69) <i>Maner Conference Center</i>		<b>Checkers</b> (Ages 60-64, 80+) <i>Maner Conference Center</i>			<b>Checkers</b> (Ages 55-59, 70-74) <i>Maner Conference Center</i>		<b>Checkers</b> (Ages 75-79) <i>Maner Conference Center</i>		

## Tomorrow's Schedule

8 AM	9 AM	10 AM	11 AM	Noon	1 PM	2 PM	3 PM	4 PM	5 PM
<b>Quarter Mile Bicycle Race</b> All Ages <i>Colmery-O'Neill VAMC</i>		<b>Half Mile Bicycle Race</b> All Ages <i>Colmery-O'Neill VAMC</i>							
<b>Croquet</b> (Ages 60-64, 70-74) <i>Colmery-O'Neill VAMC</i>		<b>Croquet</b> (Ages 65-69, 80+) <i>Colmery-O'Neill VAMC</i>			<b>Croquet</b> (Ages 55-59, 75-79) <i>Colmery-O'Neill VAMC</i>				
<b>Bowling</b> (Ages 55-59, 75-79) <i>Gage Bowl</i>		<b>Bowling</b> (Ages 60-64,) <i>Gage Bowl</i>			<b>Bowling</b> (Ages 65-69, 80+) <i>Gage Bowl</i>		<b>Bowling</b> (Ages 70-74) <i>Gage Bowl</i>		
<b>Adaptive Bowling</b> <i>(WC, Ramp, Push, Handle Ball, Visually Impaired)</i> All Ages <i>Southwest Bowl</i>									

# Today's Alternate Events

## Fort Riley and Junction City Day Trip

*Bus Departs Expocentre at 8 am.*

*Time: 9 am-2 pm*

Established in 1852, Fort Riley was the home of the U.S. Calvary for nearly 100 years. See where it all began - from the excellent stone buildings to the "tales" told on a guided historic bus tour. Tour the U.S. Calvary Museum and enjoy displays featuring the history of the American Horse Soldier who played an important role in the development and defense of the United States. Changing and rotating exhibits also include original artworks by Frederick Remington. The U.S. Calvary spirit lives on in one of the finest military museums in the country. Step back in time to the way it was for an officer in the U.S. Calvary with a visit to Quarters #24. Built in 1854, Quarters #24 is a replica of General George Armstrong Custer's quarters, representing life during the frontier period. View historic photos as well as those of George and Libby Custer. Later, enjoy local musical talents in Junction City that

will take you back to World War I. Tour the Geary County Historical Society Museum housed in Junction City's first high school. This three story native limestone building is a unique and magnificent example of the stonecutter's art. Galleries featuring "Main Street," "Grandma's Kitchen," "Depot," "One Room School House," a display of the "Goat Gland Doctor," and more.

*Bus departs at 2:15 pm.*

*Arrive back at Expocentre at 3:45 pm*

*Conflicts include: Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, and Checkers.*

## Shuttle to West Ridge Mall

*Bus departs Expocentre at 12:30pm and every half hour until 3pm.*

*Time: 12:45 - 4 pm*

Shop at Northeast Kansas' premier 1.1 million square foot regional shopping center. Anchored by Dillard's, The Jones Store Co., Sears, J.C. Penny, and Wards, the mall offers 125 specialty shops such as Eddie Bauer, The Gap, The Disney Store and more.

*Bus departs at 1:15 pm and every half hour until 4:15 pm.*

*Arrive back at Expocentre at 1 pm and every half hour until 4:30 pm.*

*Conflicts include: Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, and Checkers.*

## Kansas Museum of History

*Bus departs Expocentre at 12:30 pm.*

*Time: 1 - 3 pm*

This museum is one of the best historical museums in the country, covering Kansas history from the early pioneer days to the present. View Native American exhibits in their natural settings, including a teepee, a hogan, and a buffalo. A covered wagon with all the trappings is on display, along with many artifacts from both the Oregon and Santa Fe Trails. Also on display, a Santa Fe steam engine and two rail cars that belonged to Cyrus K. Holiday, founder of the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad.

*Bus departs at 3:15 pm.*

*Arrive back at Expocentre at 3:30 pm*

*Conflicts include: Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, and Checkers.*

## Frito Lay and Hallmark Cards Tour

*Bus departs Expocentre at 8:30 am.*

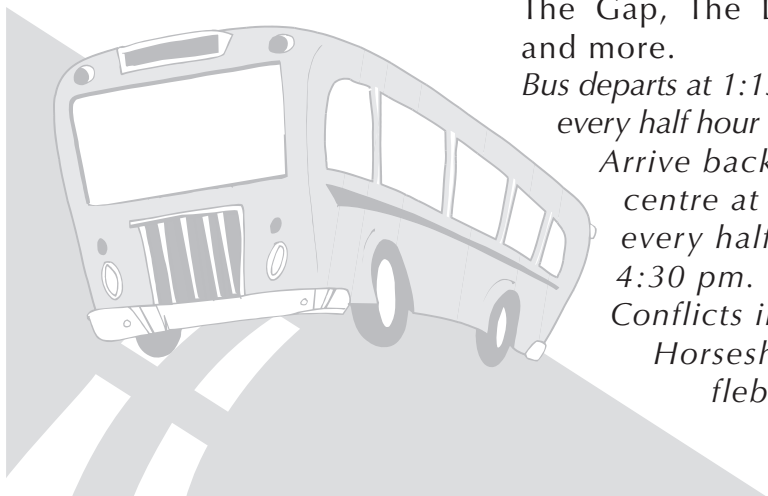
*Time: 9 am - 11 am*

Tour two of Topeka's major employers, where you will see America's favorite greeting cards being printed and one of America's many favorite snacks being produced.

*Bus departs event at 11:15 am.*

*Arrive back at Expocentre at 11:30 am*

*Conflicts include: Horseshoes, Shuffleboard, and Checkers.*



# Welcome to the Wall



There is no mountain high enough to keep the Golden Age Games athletes from reaching the summit. This week, the National Disabled Veterans Winter Sports Clinic's 25-foot climbing wall traveled to the Golden Age Games, all the way from Grand Junction, Colorado. Yesterday, many veterans scaled its heights – including 80-year-old Beverly Smith of North Babylon, N.Y. Donated to the Department of Veterans Affairs by the Disabled American Veterans (co-sponsor of the Winter Sports Clinic), the wall was originally designed for disabled participants at the Clinic. "But even though it was designed for the disabled, it works well here at the Golden Age Games," Mark Wellman said.

Mark Wellman is a paraplegic mountain climber who climbed El Capitan, not once, but twice. At 3,200 feet, El Capitan, located in Yosemite

National Park, is the largest unbroken, sheer granite cliff in North America. Wellman comes to the Winter Sports Clinic each year to help the veteran skiers learn to climb, and this past July he also brought the wall to the National Veterans Wheelchair Games in San Antonio. At that event, it quickly became an extremely popular activity among the veterans there.

For those of you who didn't get to try it yesterday, the Wall will be set up in Exhibition Hall today through Thursday, from 9 am to 12 noon, and again from 1-3 pm. "I'd like to encourage some of the wheelchair athletes here to come out and try it," Wellman said. For Beverly Smith and the others who have made the climb, it's an experience – and an achievement – they won't soon forget.



# Did You Know?

*Submitted by Andy Onifer*

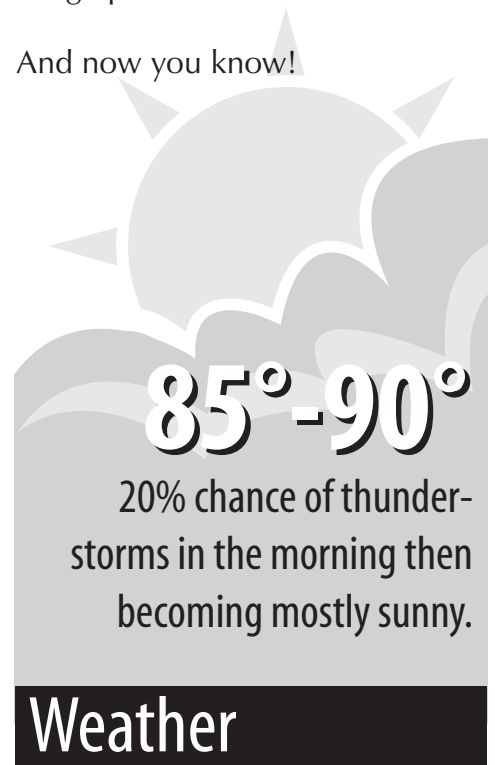
- The first words spoken over the telephone were, "Watson, come quickly. I need you!" Mr. Watson was Alexander Graham Bell's assistant.

- The first man to reach the 27,000 foot summit of Mt. Everest was Sir Hillary from New Zealand.

- The first major league baseball pitcher to hit a grand slam in the World Series was David McNally of the Baltimore Orioles against the Cincinnati Reds. A feat that still stands today.

- The first four words sent over the telegraph between Washington, D.C. and Baltimore, Maryland in May of 1844 were, "What hath God wrought." Morse wanted it known that he thought without God, there would be no telegraph.

And now you know!



**85°-90°**

20% chance of thunderstorms in the morning then becoming mostly sunny.

**Weather**